

County of Los Angeles  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES**

12860 CROSSROADS PARKWAY SOUTH • CITY OF INDUSTRY, CALIFORNIA 91746  
Tel (562) 908-8400 • Fax (562) 908-0459



BRYCE YOKOMIZO  
Director



March 30, 2004

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Bryce Yokomizo, Director

SUBJECT: **THIRD ANNUAL EVALUATION REPORT ON THE LOS ANGELES UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT AFTER-SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM**

Board of Supervisors

GLORIA MOLIN

First District

YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURK

Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSK

Third District

DON KNAB

Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVIC

Fifth District

As required by contractual agreement, the County-funded Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) After-School Enrichment Program, YS-CARE, received its third annual evaluation report. The evaluation was completed by independent evaluators Anita L. Iannucci, Ph.D., Pilar O'Cadiz, Ph.D., and James Ashurst, Ph.D., Research Support Services. The attached January 2004 evaluation report was released in March 2004.

The current report provides an evaluation of the YS-CARE program's fourth year of operation and is overall very positive about the program and program outcomes. The program's enrichment activities include visual and performing arts, music recording, computer, piano lessons, xylophone, animal science, recreation, tap dance, nutrition, pentathlon and parachute pulling. The academic assistance includes homework help, language development and reading. The supervised recreational activities include sports and physical skills development, age appropriate games and psychomotor activities.

**Findings on Academic Achievement and Behavioral Measures**

The report suggests that high risk students are benefiting academically and the benefits of the YS-CARE program may be concentrated in students who had the lowest initial performance on the academic measures.

The evaluation compared YS-CARE participants' baseline and post-program scores and analyzed gains among YS-CARE participants and those of a matched comparison group of non-participants. Academic outcome measures consisted of scores on the California Content Standards Tests (CST) for English/Language Arts and Math as well as classroom grades for Reading Achievement, Reading Effort, Math Achievement and Math Effort. The behavioral outcome measures included Work and Study Habits and Citizenship measures and regular school-day attendance.

Matched pair comparisons conducted on 1,152 YS-CARE participants and 1,152 matched non-participants reflected that YS-CARE participants had statistically significant gains in achievement and behavioral measures as follows:

- Participants in the lowest reading quartile at baseline had larger CST Math gains than matched non-participants.

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"*

APR 01 2004

- In the 59 schools that had been with YS-CARE for three to four years, CST Math scores increased significantly more for participants than for non-participants among those at the lowest reading quartile at baseline.
- During the program year, participants were absent from school fewer days and present more days than their matched non-participants.
- In the 12 schools new to the YS-CARE program in 2001-02, CST Math scores increased significantly more for participants than for non-participants for those with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) at baseline.
- The LEP students improved significantly more than the English Only students on CST English/Language Arts Improvement.

#### **Findings from Surveys of Students, Parents, Classroom Teachers and YS-CARE Staff**

Student, staff and parent survey data reaffirm that the YS-CARE program has created a safer after-school environment for children at participating school sites and has provided an excellent opportunity for parents to enrich their lives. Specific findings are:

- Participation in the program fostered other interests and participation in additional after-school activities other than YS-CARE (91% of participants reported they have developed new interests or learned new skills in the YS-CARE program; 46% of YS-CARE participants versus 29% of non-participants reported participation in other activities as well).
- Parents expressed an extremely high regard for the program (94% of parents surveyed indicated that YS-CARE is an excellent program and that it was a safe place for their children to be after school).
- Classroom teachers were very positive about the success of the program (83% reported that YS-CARE program's homework assistance improved student's schoolwork; 85% believed that children developed new interests and skills; and 90% either strongly agreed or somewhat agreed that children were helped to stay out of trouble).
- Staff at the YS-CARE program were also very positive about the program's achievements and provided responses similar to those of the parents and teachers.

YS-CARE is currently operational at 71 school sites with approximately 6,500 children enrolled.

BY:bd

Attachment

c: Chief Administrative Officer  
County Counsel  
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors